

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 969

By Yokley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sallye Elizabeth Norris McMahan of Newport.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Sallye Elizabeth “Libbye” Norris McMahan, the mother of Cocke County Mayor Iliff R. McMahan, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McMahan was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Loudon County, Libbye McMahan was the second of four children born to Cocke County natives Turner James Norris and Jessie May Cureton Norris; and

WHEREAS, following her high school graduation, Ms. McMahan joined hundreds of East Tennessee patriots at “The Secret City” of Oak Ridge, working diligently on The Manhattan Project; and

WHEREAS, an avid learner and diligent student, Libbye McMahan earned her associate’s degree from Northern Virginia Community College; and

WHEREAS, in the 1950s, the family moved to Nashville and then McLean, Virginia, but always maintained close ties to friends and family in Cocke County and, following Mr. McMahan’s retirement, they returned to their beloved hometown of Newport and immersed themselves in numerous local activities; and

WHEREAS, an engaged and important member of her community, Libbye McMahan was a member of the William Cocke Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the last surviving charter member of the Cocke County Chapter of the International Sorority, Beta Sigma Phi; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McMahan expressed her devout Christian faith as an active member of the First Baptist Church of Newport; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McMahan was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Libbye McMahan was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Iliff Richard McMahan, her parents, Turner James Norris and Jessie Cureton Norris, and her brother, A.C. Norris; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Iliff McMahan, Jr., and Marcie Wilds-McMahan; her brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Alice Norris; her sister, Patricia Harrison; her nieces, Trisha Harrison, Addie Eileen Norris Ferguson, and Sharon Norris Weems; her nephews, Doug Norris and Andy Norris; and a host of friends, family, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Libbye McMahan leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sallye Elizabeth "Libbye" Norris McMahan, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. McMahan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.